

Application No. 09/327,351
Amendment Dated November 10, 2003
Reply to Office Action of August 13, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. In the Office Action dated August 13, 2003, claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the claims in light of the remarks below. New dependent claim 33, fully supported by the original specification has been herein presented.

Claims 6, 15, 16, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being anticipated for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 6 and 27 have been amended to change "the group" to "a group." Claims 15 and 16 have been amended to depend from claim 14. Applicants believe that these amendments overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-26, and 28-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Lenormand et al* (6,545,787).

Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify that the satellites are configured to communicate therebetween as a first local area network over a landmass. While the landmass is stationary, the satellites associated therewith change from a first LAN to a second LAN. The second subset of satellites forms a second local area network also over the landmass.

The *Lenormand* reference does not teach or suggest the use of a local area network or associating a local area network with a landmass. The *Lenormand* reference teaches the use of a global or wide area network. More specifically, the *Lenormand* reference

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teaches the use of different satellites should a satellite fail during the processing of a call. The example shown in Fig. 3 of *Lenormand* shows global routing with a primary path and a backup path around the world. Other teachings include substituting a working satellite with a non-working satellite. However, the *Lenormand* reference fails to teach or suggest associating a local area network with a landmass. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider this rejection.

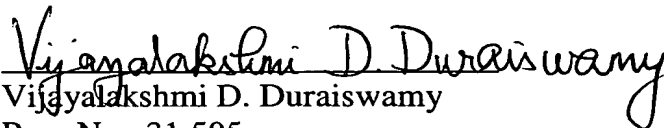
Each of the other dependent claims recites the local area network language. Some also recite the landmass association. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the remaining claims.

Claims 6, 10, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lenormand*. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 6, 10, and 27 are allowable for the same reasons set forth with respect to the claims above. Therefore, Applicants believe the application is now in condition for allowance.

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In light of the remarks above, Applicants submit that all objections and rejections are now overcome. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,


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